



### NEW FALL SERMON SERIES

#### "Strength for This Season" Series (September 8-October 27)

We are living in challenging times and are facing troubles and obstacles in our country and in the world. How do we find the strength we need for these turbulent times? We hold onto the God who holds onto us and is still there for us, for the world, and for the church.

#### 10/13- "Real Peace" Romans 5:1-5

10/ 20- "Seek the Most Good" II Timothy 3:10-17

10/ 27 "Live More" Colossians 3:12-17

Carrie Kapral is preaching this Sunday. Peace seems so hard to come by, we are busy people, living busy lives in a busy world. We are surrounded by stress and conflict. Sometimes it feels as though there isn't time to take a deep breath. We long for some quiet, some order, some comfort.

Thomas Merton said, "We are not at peace with others because we are not at peace with ourselves, and we are not at peace with ourselves because we are not at peace with God." The apostle Paul would agree. Yet, we are not without peace. In Romans 5, he begins to lay out the lasting path to peace; peace that is the result of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. This peace is timeless and available - even in the midst of the change and uncertainty that characterize so much of the world today.

---Carrie

#### October 6, 2019

Worship Attendance — 179

#### Stewardship Report

2019-2020 Budget: \$ 768,135

**Year to Date Income** \$379,590

**Year to Date Expenses** \$367,699

Peace offering received \$203.00

2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$3,000

We offer several convenient options for electronic giving. Please visit our website or call Tracy Norris for more information.

# e-News

October 9, 2019

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
815-727-9259 [firstpresjoliet.org](http://firstpresjoliet.org)

#### The Week Ahead **Fellowship/Bible Studies:**

Centering Prayer—Tuesdays at 1 PM in Room 217

Midweek Family Night— Wednesdays at 5:30 PM

Praise Yoga—Thursdays at 8AM and Tuesdays at 7 PM

Confirmation — Sundays at 4:30 PM

Youth Group — Sundays at 6:00 PM

Glory Ringers — Mondays at 7 PM

Chancel Choir — Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

Lunch Bunch—Tuesdays at noon

Women's Bible Study — 10/10 at 10 AM

2nd Sunday Potluck — 10.13 at 11:30 am

Dinner Out Group — 10.15 at 6 PM at Syl's Restaurant

#### **FINANCIAL PLANNING:**

The first meeting will be held 10/15 at 7p.m. in room 210. These meetings will be for all of us to learn more about financial planning from each other. No one will be asked to disclose personal information. For more info, contact

**Ken Graham (630 297-5632) [kengraham8@msn.com](mailto:kengraham8@msn.com) or Jim Huey (815 953-8422) [hueyjim@comcast.net](mailto:hueyjim@comcast.net)**

*Please leave a message if you call.*

#### ♦ TRUNK N TREAT ♦

**Save the Date!** October 23rd, 6 PM here at First Pres! You can sign up now online, or with the office.

#### **VOLUNTEER AT THE NORTHERN IL FOOD BANK,**

On Saturday 11/ 2 up to 25 adults & children 8+ can go to the Northern Illinois food bank to help. Wear closed toe shoes and be there 8:50 a.m. -11:30 a.m. It's on Larkin Ave. behind Taco Bell and Comfort Inn. Come and help feed hungry families!

#### **Volunteers this Sunday, October 13, 2019**

**9:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

Connection Center:

Don Barnes      Ralene Barnes

Children's Worship:

Megan Pritz      Sarah Lundeen

Greeters:

Emma Sticklen

Acolytes:

Cameron Paul      Rafe Rogers

Ushers:

Mark Dykema      Ed Schultz  
Jasmine Maxwell      Misti Lakin

Coffee Fellowship:

Jon Belfield

Sound Room:

Rich Pool

Video Screens:

THE PASTOR'S CORNER...Craig Herr, Senior Pastor

**Sunday, October 13,** We worship the God of all Peace, whose peace “transcends all understanding, [and who] will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7). Come and dwell in the presence of the God of “Real Peace” and worship with your friends in Christ.

**TRUNK’N TREAT IS ALMOST HERE!** It’s time to think about how you will help make this exciting community event at our church happen again! You can help in any of the following ways: set up, clean up, service food, greet, decorate a trunk. Just call the church, or see a pastor, or sign up on the website. Anticipate MUCH FUN and take part in it all!

**Thanks to all who participated in the Blood Drive This Sunday,** It was a good Sunday for the Versiti Blood Drive, I was told by one of their leaders. Thanks for giving the gift of your time and donating blood which helps three people for each donation.

**Financial Planning Idea Exchange,** Join us on Tuesday, evening October 15 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 210 to discuss ideas relating to finances, saving for college, retirement, budgeting, tax savings etc. If you have any questions the contact info is in the information provided on the front page.

**Volunteer at the Northern Illinois Food Bank.** On Saturday, November 2 we are volunteering at the local food bank! See the box on the front page for more information.

May you experience the peace of God in Christ Jesus this week.

Craig

## **Sunday, October 6- “Lean In to the Lord” Psalm 116:1-10, Philippians 4:4-13**

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy... he delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me.

Paul was Christ-Sufficient.

The Stoic was self-sufficient.

The Stoic philosophy failed because it disconnected people from each other, it was inhuman. Christianity is about Jesus’ will and life and spirit living in and through us. Christianity connects us to the living God through Christ, and to other people, in the church, the body of Christ.

Faithful people have a deep desire to live in the presence of God and to live according to God’s will and guidance and to be in fellowship with each other.

Brennan Manning, an author/teacher was speaking at a conference. Another speaker/writer, Larry Crabb asked where he was headed once the conference was over.

“I’m going on a 7-day silent retreat,” he said.

“Why?” Crabb asked. “What are you going to get out of this? Are you a different person because you are doing this?”

Manning was bewildered. “I never thought of what I’d get out of it” he said.

“Then why?” he asked again.

“I just figured God likes it when I show up,”

We are more intentional about life when we lean in to the Lord and show up.

Johann Wolfgang Van Goethe once wrote, “There is nothing so terrible as activity without insight.”

How is your life going? Is it filled with a lot of activity without insight?

What if you lean in to the Lord more often?

Past Sermons are available to hear on our **website and app! Under “Media”, then “Sermons”** <https://www.firstpresjoliet.org/sermons->

## **Our Church Family**

### **Known to be in the Hospital:**

Brian Lynch is at Holy Family in Des Plaines  
Joan Barnes is at Saint Josephs in Joliet

### **Please Pray-**

Joyce Miner asks for your prayers for her son Dan Miner. Dan is battling cancer of the esophagus right now. Dan grew up at First Pres. and many of you know him personally. The family covets your prayers at this time. Dan is receiving treatment at John’s Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland and will be undergoing surgery soon.

## **YOUTH NEWS**

**Wildfire Youth Group:** The Bible is an amazing book for more reasons than you may realize. In the very beginning the stories were told by word of mouth only—nothing was written down until Moses came along. Then, many authors and many years passed. It would be easy to say “Well, the Bible’s an Anthology then. A ton of stories and maybe a theme if you look close enough.” You would be surprised though! Not only is there a theme, the Bible tells one continuous story of God’s love for us. How else could a book like this exist *without* divine intervention? Students in grades 6th-12th are welcome to join us Sundays 6:00pm-7:30pm to enjoy games, a lesson, small groups, and snack!

**Midweek:** Tonight’s lesson gets into the nitty gritty details of the Land of Narnia. This week will explore the sacrifice of Aslan that mirrors the sacrifice of Christ. This week’s study is called “It will be harder than you think” and talks about how we, as humans, often take for granted (or don’t even realize) the true sacrifice that was made in order for us to be brought back together with Jesus. Each lesson is finished with watching parts of the film!

**Confirmation:** This week we will take a quick look over some of the important documents that make up our *Book of Confessions*. We will also begin to discuss Statements of Faith—and I can’t wait to hear all about your chosen sponsor!